

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company
for Authorization to Sell Electric Distribution and
Certain Transmission Facilities Serving the City
of Patterson, the Community of Crows Landing,
and Certain Adjacent Rural Areas to the Turlock
Irrigation District Pursuant to Public Utilities
Code Section 851 and For Approval of Service
Area Agreement Under Public Utilities Code
Section 8101

Application 02-01-012
(Filed January 4, 2002)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING SETTING PREHEARING
CONFERENCE (PHC), REQUIRING PARTIES TO MEET AND CONFER
AND TO FILE PHC STATEMENTS, AND CONFIRMING TIME TO FILE REPLY
TO PROTEST BY COMMISSION OFFICE OF RATESPAYER ADVOCATES**

This ruling sets a prehearing conference (PHC) for March 19, 2002, at 2:00 p.m., in the Commission Courtroom, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California. The purpose of the PHC is to identify the relevant issues and discuss procedural matters, including a schedule for the proceeding.

The parties shall meet and confer before the PHC to explore the possibility of settlement, to identify and narrow the issues to be addressed in the proceeding, to discuss any discovery issues, and to develop a suggested schedule. The parties shall begin any necessary discovery and discussions promptly after receipt of this ruling.

The parties shall file and serve PHC statements by no later than March 13, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. A copy of each PHC statement shall also be

transmitted to the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) by personal delivery, by facsimile sent to (415) 703-1723, or by e-mail addressed to tom@cpuc.ca.gov by 5:00 p.m. on March 13, 2002.

The PHC statements shall address the following subjects:

- The status of settlement discussions, if any;
- The status of discovery;
- The disputed factual and legal issues that each party intends to ask the Commission to decide;
- Whether an evidentiary hearing is necessary and the number of hearing days requested;
- The anticipated number of witnesses that each party expects to call at the evidentiary hearing and a brief description of the subject of each witness' testimony;
- A proposed schedule for the proceeding¹, including:
 - A cut-off date for discovery;
 - Suggested dates for the service of prepared testimony, reply testimony, and rebuttal testimony;
 - At least two suggested hearing dates on which all parties and their counsel are available;
 - Suggested dates for the filing and service of post-hearing briefs and reply briefs; and
- Any other relevant issues raised by the parties.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and the Turlock Improvement District (TID) have agreed that the Commission Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) may file a protest by no later than February 25, 2002. PG&E and TID may file and serve a reply to ORA's protest no later than March 8, 2002 at 5:00 p.m.,

¹ In developing a proposed schedule, the parties should note that the Commission aims to complete this proceeding as soon as possible in a manner consistent with the parties' right to a fair hearing and by no later than within 18 months.

and shall transmit a copy to the assigned ALJ by personal delivery, facsimile, or e-mail by this time.

This proceeding has been categorized as ratesetting. Therefore, unless a party successfully appeals this designation pursuant to Rule 6.4², ex parte communications are permitted only as specified in Rule 7(c) and are subject to the reporting requirements stated in Rule 7.1.

Parties desiring expedited or daily transcripts of the PHC shall advise the Chief Hearing Reporter by telephone at (415) 703-4881, no later than three business days in advance. If there are questions, please call the Calendar Clerk at (415) 703-1203.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated February 20, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MYRA J. PRESTIDGE

Myra J. Prestidge
Administrative Law Judge

² All Rule citations are to the Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Setting Prehearing Conference (PHC), Requiring Parties to Meet and Confer and to File PHC Statements, and Confirming Time to file Reply to Protest by Commission Office of Ratespayer Advocates on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated February 20, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JACQUELINE GORZUCH
Jacqueline Gorzuch

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.